



Posted: Friday, February 18, 2022

NOTICE AND CALL OF A SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL

The Trinidad City Council will hold a regular meeting on
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022, at 6:00 PM

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE
CLOSED SESSION BEGINS AT 5:30PM

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 this meeting will be held via videoconference, and will be hosted on the **Zoom**.
Learn more about Zoom here: <https://zoom.us>

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment may be submitted via email in advance of the meeting, or in an orderly process during the meeting. If you do not have access to email and you would like to provide a written statement, please deliver your comment to 409 Trinity Street, Trinidad CA, by 2:00pm on the meeting day.

Email public comments to cityclerk@trinidad.ca.gov Your comments will be included in the public record for the meeting, and will be accepted at any time during the meeting.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: The City will publish a direct link to the conference, along with the participant code, on the City Calendar page online at <http://trinidad.ca.gov/calendar>

To phone in, dial 1-888-278-0296, Conference Code: 685171 Meeting ID: 890 7020 0980 Passcode: 038113

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, members of the public may only comment on an item appearing on the agenda. Please adhere to the following when addressing the Council: 1) Individual comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less, 2) Comments should be directed to the Council as a whole and not directed to individual Council Members

IV. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

- 1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Gov. Code Section 54956.9: City of Trinidad v. Trinidad Bay Bed & Breakfast/Mike Morgan (Humboldt Co. Superior Court Case No. CV2100112)

V. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

VII. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

At this time, members of the public may comment on items NOT appearing on the agenda. Individual comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less. Comments should be directed to the Council as a whole and not to individual Council Members or staff. Council and staff responses will be minimal for non-agenda items.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA - No Consent Items

IX. DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Discussion/Decision regarding Second Reading of Ordinance 2022-01; Amending the Requirements for Election of the Chair of the Planning Commission.
- 2. Discussion/Decision regarding Appointment to Fill the City Council Vacancy through December 2022.

- XIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT



DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEM 1

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED

1. Discussion/Decision regarding Second Reading of Ordinance 2022-01; Amending the Requirements for Election of the Chair of the Planning Commission

The first reading of this ordinance was conducted on February 08, 2022 at a regular meeting of the City Council. Two public hearings are required to adopt or amend city ordinances. This is considered the second reading. The Ordinance will be effective 30 days following the second reading.

DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEM

February 22, 2022

Item: Second Reading of Ordinance 2022-01 amending the requirements for election of the Chair of the Planning Commission.

Background

At their February 17, 2021 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended to the City Council that they consider amending the requirements for the election of the Planning Commission Chair. Then, at the March 9, 2021 City Council meeting, the Council voted to direct staff to prepare an amendment as recommended by the Planning Commission. However, there was a lot going on at that time and staff had other priorities. Now the Planning Commission is again in the position of having to elect a new Chair.

The current code (§2.20.070) restricts Planning Commissioners from serving multiple two-year terms as Chair unless everyone else on the Commission has already served. Due to the high turnover and occasional lack of having a full Commission, the Commission has found itself in the position of having to elect someone who is very new and/or who does not want to serve as the Chair. Meetings run more smoothly with a Chair that has experience being on the Commission and who wants to be in that position. There does not seem to be any advantage to requiring turnover of the Planning Commission Chair. The amendment will make the provisions for the election of the Planning Commission Chair similar to those for electing the Mayor.

Attachments

- Ordinance 2022-01 amending the requirements for election of the Chair of the Planning Commission.

Recommended Action:

Approve the SECOND reading of Ordinance 2022-01.

Ordinance No. 2022-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TRINIDAD
AMENDING SECTION 2.20.070 OF TITLE 2 OF THE TRINIDAD MUNICIPAL CODE
RELATING TO THE ELCTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR

ORDINANCE 2022-01, SECTION 1:

Revise Chapter 2.20, Section 2.20.070, Election of chair and vice chair, to read, in context, as follows:

2.20.070 Election of chair and vice chair.

The commission shall elect its chair and vice chair from among the appointed members of the commission.

The chair of the planning commission shall be elected to a two-year term, unless removed by a majority vote of the commission,

Deleted: , on a rotating basis, so that no individual may serve a second term as chair as long as there are others on the commission who have not so served

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Trinidad, State of California, on **Tuesday February 8, 2022**, by the following vote:

First Reading of Ordinance 2022-01: Tuesday February 8, 2022

Second Reading of Ordinance 2022-01:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

Attest:

Gabriel Adams
Trinidad City Clerk

Steve Ladwig
Mayor



DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEM 2

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED

2. Discussion/Decision regarding Appointment to Fill the City Council Vacancy through December 2022.

The February 08 meeting packet included letters of interest from (2) candidates; Robert Mott (Scenic Drive) and Mike Morgan (Edwards Street).

Just prior to the meeting February 08 meeting and after the packet was published, Mr. Mott informed the Council that he was unable to attend due to a prior engagement. The Council agreed to postpone the appointment to the Second Regular Monthly meeting on February 22nd, and extend the filing deadline to February 18 giving Mr. Mott an opportunity to attend and allowing additional time for other interested candidates to apply.

Mr. Mott just informed the City by email that he is withdrawing his letter of interest (attached).

Mr. Morgan remains interested in the position (letter of interest attached).

Underwood resident Jack Tuttle submitted a letter of interest (attached).

DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEM

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Item: Discussion/Decision regarding Appointment to Fill the City Council Vacancy through December 2022.

The City received a letter of resignation from Councilmember Tom Davies, effective December 31, 2021 and began recruiting following the Council meeting in January.

Davies was elected to the position in 2018 and will have served 3-years upon resignation. The City must actively seek a replacement for the remainder of his term through December 2022.

The current Councilmember terms are:

| | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Ladwig | Term Expires December 2024 |
| West | Term Expires December 2024 |
| Kelly | Term Expires December 2022 |
| Davies | Term Expires December 2022 |
| Grover | Term Expires December 2022 |

Basic eligibility requirements for serving on the City Council are:

- Must reside inside the city limits
- Must be a registered voter, inside the City limits.

The City Council is responsible for appointing a new member to fulfill the remaining term, and may set whatever qualifications, criteria, and experience they feel is necessary for the applicants to have.

AS OF FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2022, the City received (2) letters of interest.

- **Jack Tuttle**, 795 Underwood Drive, Solar Energy Sales.
- **Mike Morgan**, 560 Edwards Street, Owner Trinidad Bay Bed & Breakfast.

Action Requested: Evaluate and make appointment to fill the vacancy through December 2022.

Attachments: Letters of Interest from Tuttle and Morgan.
Letter from Mott withdrawing his name from consideration.

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**Subject: Fwd: city council****From: Eli Naffah <citymanager@trinidad.ca.gov>****Date: Fri, Feb 18, 2022 10:14 am****To: Gabriel Adams <cityclerk@trinidad.ca.gov>**

Begin forwarded message:

From: Robert Mott <drdamott@gmail.com>
Date: February 17, 2022 at 2:52:01 PM PST
To: citymanager@trinidad.ca.gov
Subject: city council

Submitted on Thursday, February 17, 2022 - 2:52pm
Submitted by anonymous user: [47.208.113.163]
Submitted values are:

Name: Robert Mott
Email: drdamott@gmail.com
Phone: 7074986688
Subject: city council

Message:

Dear Ely:

It has been very nice talking to you about the positions on City Council and the Planning Commission of the City of Trinidad.

Unfortunately, I have decided to withdraw my prior letter of interest concerning either of these volunteer positions. At this time, personal matters prevent me from assisting with the government of Trinidad.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding.

Respectfully yours,

Robert Mott

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[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**Subject: City Council Seat****From: Jack Tuttle <jacktuttlesolar@gmail.com>****Date: Fri, Feb 11, 2022 3:18 pm****To: Trinidad City Clerk <cityclerk@trinidad.ca.gov>****Cc: Heather Lovig <heatherlovig@gmail.com>**

Hi Gabe,

I received the letter looking to fill the city council seat and I would like to apply for that opportunity.

I have not served on any city council before but I am excited to learn and be part of our community.

A bit about me.

I was raised in Fresno Ca, the youngest of 4 boys. I moved to San Luis Obispo where I got a bachelor of science in agribusiness at Cal Poly.

I worked in international agribusiness for a couple of years but received a calling to be part of the clean energy revolution.

A Humboldt based company hired me to be their first outside sales person. I stayed with that company through 14 turbulent years. Learning how to work with difficult situations, and find solutions for sometimes unsolvable problems.

In that time my company evolved into the largest Solar Energy company in the United States.

Being in sales and working with hundreds of different personalities, I'm tuned to being diplomatic and respectful to those with different opinions.

I would love the opportunity to serve the Trinidad community on the City Council.

Best Regards


Jack Tuttle
795 Underwood Drive
PO Box 230
Trinidad CA 95570
(Cell) 805-440-9458

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February 1st, 2022

Mike Morgan, 560 Edwards Street
www.councilguymike.us

Honorable Councilmembers,
My name is Mike Morgan, and I would appreciate consideration of appointment to the remainder of former Councilmember Davies' term.

I'm a long-term resident and business owner, an #AmericaFirst Trump  Republican, registered to vote here in the City of Trinidad, California.

Running in November 2022, again 🙄

I want government control out of our wallets, out of our homes, out of our bodies, and off our faces. #MikeMorgan2022 for Councilman, CITY OF TRINIDAD, California
#AmericaFirst #MAGAA #BestIsYetToCome

For Wokesters: My pronouns are he/him. I'm a 57 year old, 2nd generation American Caucasian white male, of British-Irish-German-Scandinavian ancestry, with blue eyes and a full, if thinning, head of dark blond hair with some gray.

Elected to the City of Trinidad City Council 2008—2012, I have also served as City of Trinidad Planning Commission Chair before that term, and as a Trinidad Volunteer Fire Department Fire Captain & EMT. Community Service and Support: Trinidad California Tourism and Lodging, Humboldt Lodging Alliance, Humboldt County Tourism Business Improvement District Executive Board, Trinidad Museum Society, Trinidad Civic Club, Trinidad California Saints Martha and Mary Church Leadership, Greater Trinidad Chamber of Commerce President.

Besides remodeling my home and business, the Trinidad Bay Bed and Breakfast Hotel, I also enjoyed starting the Trinidad Town Hall remodel project. I enjoy, and miss, traveling the world, and backpacking in our Trinity Alps Wilderness with my partner Tyler James and friends — Trinidad is still my favorite adventure discovery, and luckily, it is also home.

Thank you for your consideration, Mike 

3 November 2020

24.12% Vote for Trinidad City Councilmember

Humboldt County, PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

10:11AM Runtime 12/01/2020 Rundate trinidad.ca.gov .pdf p8,9

COPY

----- Forwarded Message -----

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Subject: | Re: Meeting Notice/public comment on item 5, last part of agenda |
| Date: | Sun, 12 Dec 2021 15:14:53 -0800 |
| From: | baycity@sonic.net < baycity@sonic.net > |
| To: | Trinidad City Clerk < cityclerk@trinidad.ca.gov > |
| CC: | baycity@sonic.net < baycity@sonic.net > |

Dear City Council,

I write in support of appointing former Councilman, former Planning Commissioner, former Greater Trinidad Chamber of Commerce President, former Trinidad Volunteer Fire Department captain and Trinidad business owner Michael Morgan to Dr. Clompus's vacant seat.

Before you faint, because based on City Closed Session announcements there appears to be City litigation pending with Mr. Morgan, please consider all of the past and present good he has accomplished. When he was in community leadership positions, he always treated colleagues, applicants, members of the public, businesses and customers with the utmost professionalism and courtesy. He was unbiased in his decision making and recommendations in a public forum.

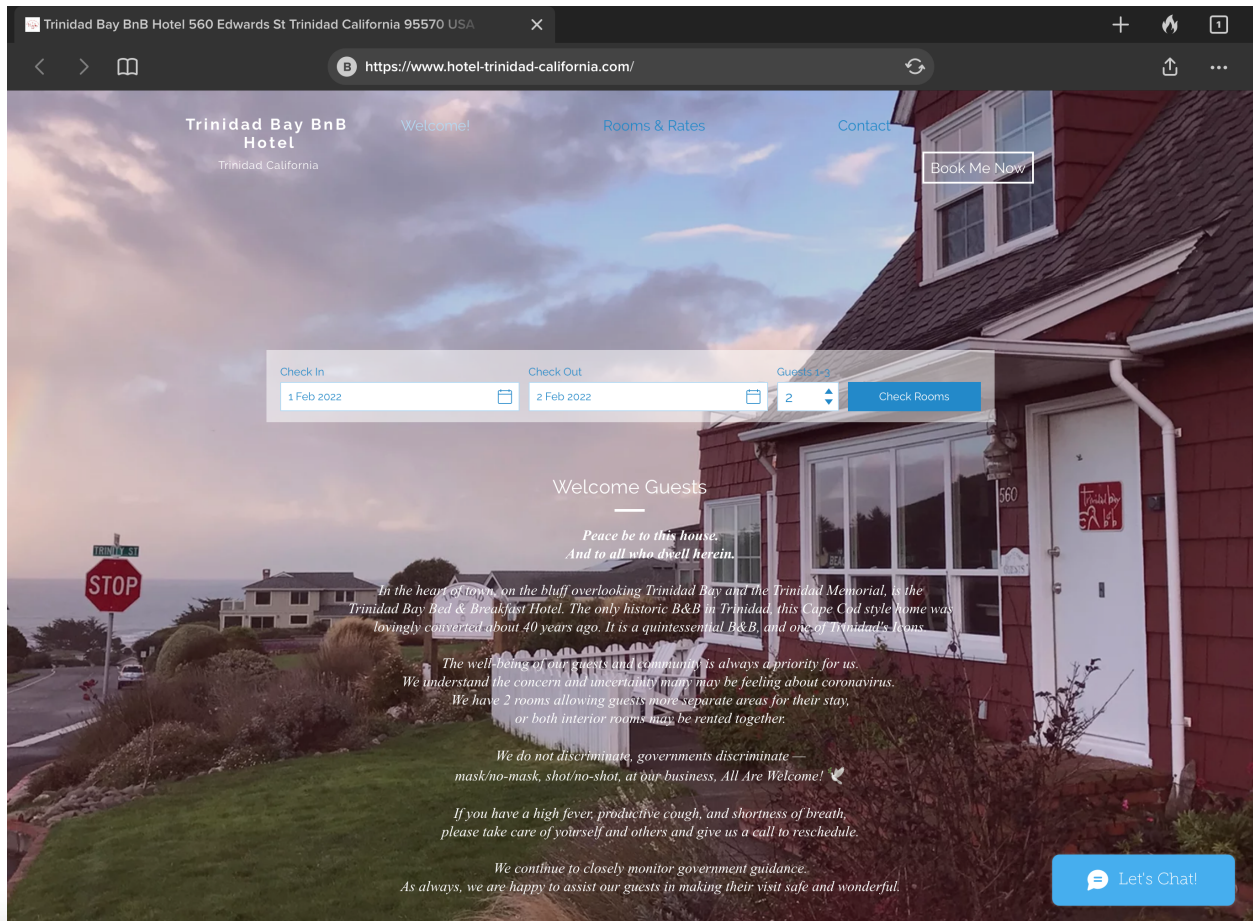
What do you have to lose by encouraging bringing out the best in him now?

During the coronavirus challenges, small businesses have been among the worst affected. I don't know the details of the litigation, however because tempers seem to flare in town when visitor lodging is discussed, I expect there has been some turmoil for Mr. Morgan in trying to save his business, which has been an Inn, not an STR, since the mid 1980s and has accommodated many very happy guests.

I remember the horrible and expensive years of litigation for the City and litigants in the 1990s over trails. On reflection, passions ran high, many harsh pronouncements were made, diverse views were expressed at every Council meeting. Did these personally and professionally destructive lawsuits satisfy anyone? Did they make our beautiful town a better place? Was there a positive outcome? Were they worth the money and agony? I suppose each of us has to try to answer these questions individually. I cannot say that the City, nor the citizenry, grew more content or unified.

This is a different time, with different problems. How about giving Mr. Morgan another chance at being a problem solver, at which he excelled, instead of considering him a trouble maker. We all might be surprised, and, I hope, pleased, at the result.

Best regards and wishes,
Patricia Fleschner
P. O. Box 1010
Trinidad, CA 95570
baycity@sonic.net

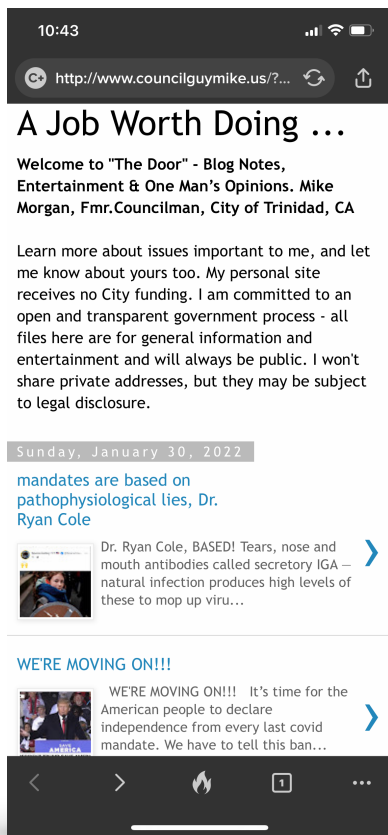


Trinidad Bay Bed and Breakfast Hotel www.hotel-trinidad-california.com

CITY COUNCIL

The Trinidad City Council is looking to fill the vacancy left by long-time member Tom Davies. Tom has served 3 years of a 4-year term, expiring December 2022, and leaves only 1-year of service to be filled.

If you've been contemplating ways to volunteer or serve your community, and are looking for the right opportunity to test the water, this is your calling. You must reside AND be a registered voter inside the City limits to qualify. If you would like to discuss the demands of the position, or would like to consider submitting a letter of interest, reach out to the City Clerk's office, by phone: [\(707\) 677-0223](tel:7076770223), or by email:



cityclerk@trinidad.ca.gov

